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Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I rely on an independent provider of broadband services (Sonic.net) to run several home businesses. Having previously tried the bigger company in our area, AT&T, I know that their level of service and reliability is simply inadequate to my needs. If USTelecom's petition is granted then my life will be materially affected, very much for the worse.

My personal life and home-based businesses rely on independent broadband service. Furthermore, I know that the larger companies provide an inferior, inadequate product that I don't want. I live in a small, unincorporated area with poor utility access, so I already have only two choices of providers, AT&T and Sonic. Any reduction in the competition between these two would be disastrous, allowing AT&T to impose its poor service and high prices.

In fact, it is precisely due to this competition that I have fiber today. Previously I was connected with competitive DSL. The competition to provide me with broadband internet also led to competition for phone services, with the result that I also get phone service from my independent provider, Sonic.net.

As a residential consumer of independent broadband service, I vigorously OPPOSE the petition.

Sincerely yours,

Dennis Aitch